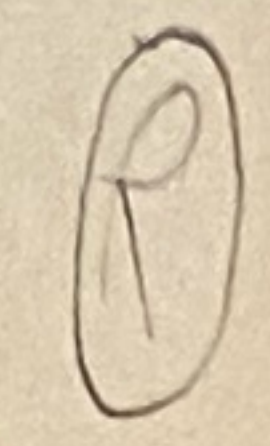


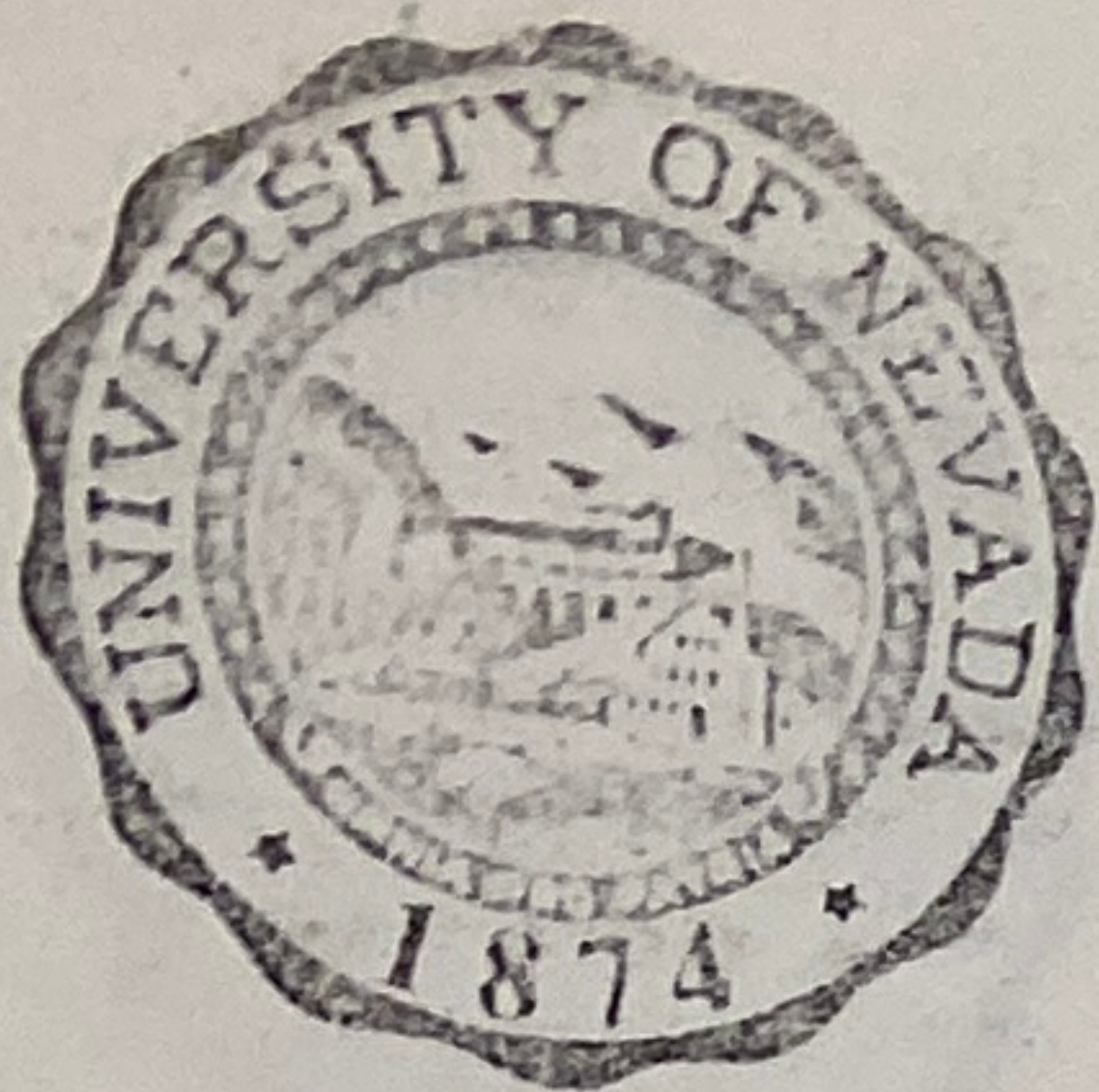
gato.stanford.edu
Finding Aid Feedback
Finding Aid Feedback
gato.stanford.edu



Also Mission
Subject File
Remuneration
Medal, 1976

HOOVER INSTITUTION ARCHIVES
Archival Media
BORIS T. PASH
BOX NO. 3
ACCESSION NO. 2003-019





UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA • RENO

RENO, NEVADA 89557 • (702) 781-6792

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

November 5, 1976

Maj. Gen. James C. Fry, USA Ret.
3276 Juniper Lane
Falls Church, Va. 22044

Dear General Fry:

At the request of Boris Pash I am giving you some information regarding the prominence of the scientists attached to his "Alsos" mission. As you probably know, scientists, like artists, can be temperamental and difficult to handle and occasionally we had problems. But these were few and Boris learned very early how to avoid these difficulties. The historian James Phinney Baxter 3d, president of Williams College, writes in his book "Scientists Against Time" that the Alsos Mission "proved to be one of the finest examples of cooperation of the scientists and the armed forces."

The scientists on the mission, with only a couple of exceptions, have biographies in "Who's Who in America". I admit that this is not a very exceptional distinction for academic people, but many of them can also be found in the "International Who's Who", a smaller collection of notables covering the whole world and thus carrying a lot of prestige. I have not made a thorough search but noted the names of Charles Smyth, chemist, Princeton University; Louis Fieser, Harvard, world-famous for his work on applied organic chemistry, which included the manufacture of napalm; Jaap Den Hartog, then at Harvard, famous for his work on vibration control in engineering; Tim Sherwood of MIT, recently deceased, a world-famous expert in chemical engineering; W.A. Noyes, a chemist with world-wide connections; Gerard Kuiper, astronomer, who died last year, and whose knowledge of the moon and the planets made him a key person in our space program. There are several more, but I have limited myself to those who were essential members of the Alsos mission.

The prisoners we took were even more prominent. Among them were two Nobel Prize winners, Werner Heisenberg and Max von Laue, and one who obtained this great honor while he was interned, Otto Hahn, the discoverer of uranium fission, which started the nuclear age. We also captured the son of Hitler's Foreign Secretary, Von Weizsäcker. One of our prisoners, named Sievers, had been in charge of Nazi research in concentration camps. He was condemned to death at the Nuremberg trials.

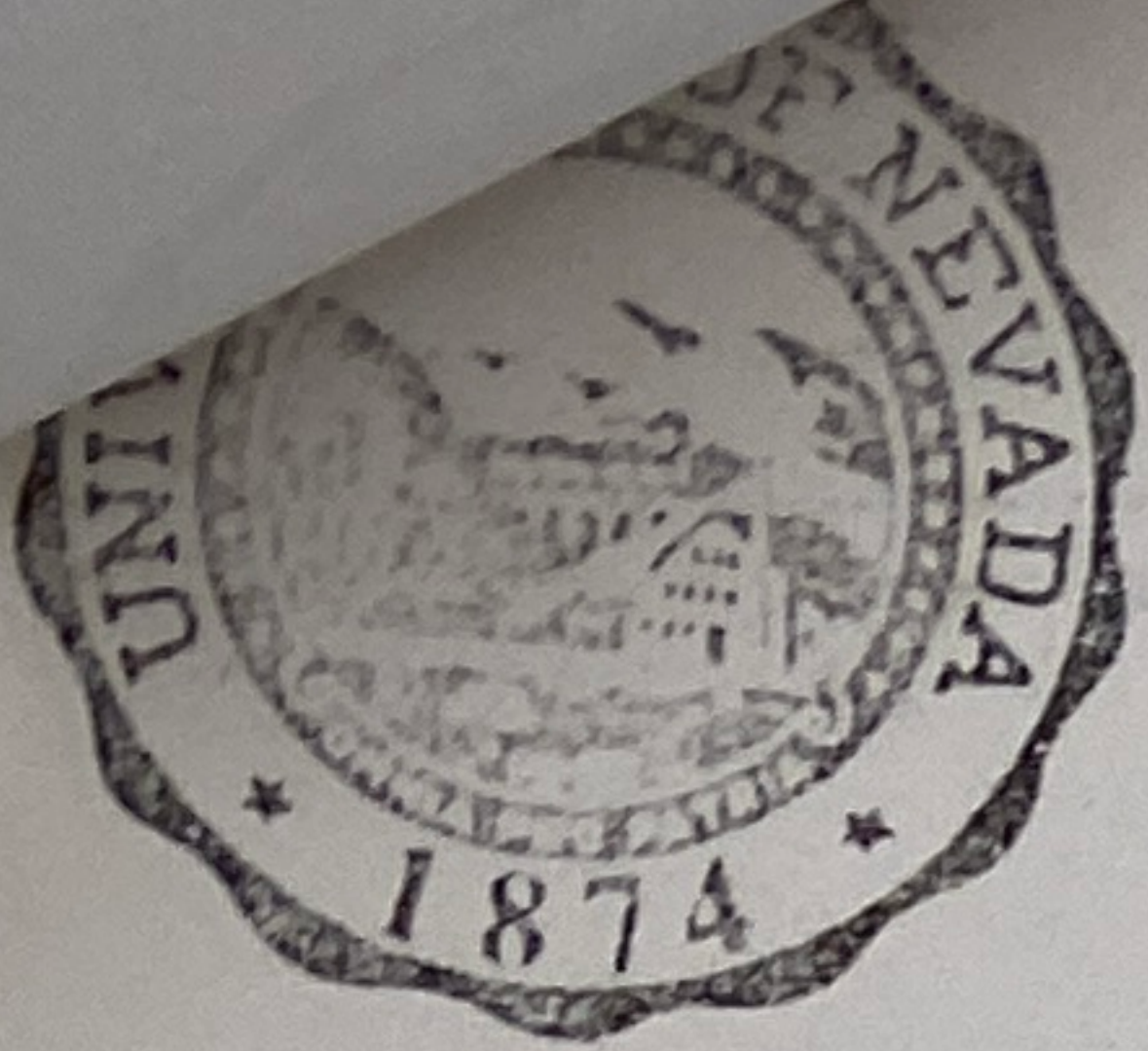
I hope that this information will be helpful. Please let me know if you need more details or different data.

Sincerely,

Sam Goudsmit
Samuel A. Goudsmit

Encl 1 to Encl 1

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ms



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA • RENO

RENO, NEVADA 89557 • (702) 781-6792

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

December 3, 1976

James C. Fry, Major General,
U.S. Army, Ret.
3276 Juniper Lane
Falls Church, Va. 22044

Dear General Fry:

Your letter of November 11 arrived while I was travelling. This combined with the semester's exam period activities is the reason for the delay in my answer.

The Alsos Mission was a unique venture and it is impossible to compare it with any other military operation. It was highly successful. At the fall of Strasbourg in November 1944, we found irrefutable documentary evidence that Germany did not have atomic weapons and was lagging far behind in research on reactors. This was eight months before our first bomb was tested near Alamogordo.

The Mission's success was possible only because we arrived at strategic places at the first possible moment, before documents and other evidence could have disappeared or been tampered with. We also were able to take witnesses by surprise, which made interrogations more relevant than they would have been after delays.

These quick movements and rapid actions were entirely the result of the operational methods used by Colonel Boris Pash. He was always able to get us, without delay, to any place which seemed important to us on the basis of information gathered in the field. He thereby took a great amount of responsibility on his own shoulders and had to take many risks. The Alsos Mission was thus able to collect fresh and valuable intelligence in a number of scientific and technical areas, in addition to our main assignments: atomic and biological weapons.

I enclose a copy of a relevant page of the book Scientists Against Time, by James Phinney Baxter III, the president of Williams College, who was the official historian for the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

I also enclose excerpts from my final report on the Alsos Mission, dated 7 December 1945.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. Goudsmit
Samuel A. Goudsmit

Four scientists were sent to follow the Allied forces into Italy and to discover any significant scientific information which might be obtained from captured personnel or establishments. More elaborate was the similar ALSOS mission to the European theater, a joint Army-Navy-OSRD enterprise conducted under the auspices of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2. The responsibility for the scientific side of the mission rested with OSRD, through the agency of the Office of Field Service. Its primary object was to secure an immediate and comprehensive picture of German scientific research in relation to the war effort and to find out with all possible speed what progress the Germans had made in the development of an atomic bomb. Under the able leadership of Dr. Samuel Goudsmit and Colonel Boris T. Pash, this mission proved to be one of the finest examples of the co-operation of the scientists and the armed forces. It involved the assembling of lists of personnel, the names and location of laboratories and industrial firms, the prompt securing of the target areas as the armies rolled forward, the intelligent investigation of files and laboratories, the questioning of German scientists and laboratory workers, and the final systematic reporting of the findings to the proper authorities in America.

A third class of activity, operational analysis, was carried out for the Navy with distinguished success by ASWORG. The Office of Field Service also co-operated from time to time by the detailing of men on temporary assignment with the Operational Analysis Division of the Army Air Forces and with the Air Technical Analysis Division under the Office of the Vice-Chief of Naval Operations.

The personnel of OFS came in the main from the Divisions and Panels of NDRC and CMR. It was not always easy to persuade a division chief that his research work was so near completion that he could spare some of his key men for field service, but the top officers of OSRD lent every support. The services were not looking in field service for some generally qualified and intelligent men with technical training, for they had those already in abundance in their officer cadres. They needed in general men who knew a great deal about some small but important subject, men who would know more about that subject than anyone else in the theater, or top men with broad familiarity.

The civilian in field service did not become a member of the armed services, though he wore an army uniform with a shoulder patch in-

Relevant extract of the book SCIENTISTS AGAINST TIME,
by JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER III;

Scientists Against Time - by James Phinney Baxter III

EXCERPTS FROM THE FINAL REPORT FROM THE SCIENTIFIC CHIEF
OF THE ALSOS MISSION, dated 7 December 1945

p.7. Relations Between the Scientific and Military Groups

"Almost from the very beginning of operations in France, a clear understanding was reached concerning the division of responsibility between the military and the scientific groups of the Alsos Mission.

The task of the scientists was to analyze and evaluate all available material which led to personalities and locations of interest to scientific intelligence. The task of the military was to plan and execute operations, to secure the personalities and locations indicated by the scientific staff and to enable the scientists to investigate these targets.

This arrangement worked out perfectly. Never did the military group question the judgment of the scientific group as to the importance of a target, and never did they fail to execute the operations as needed and planned. It was essential, however, that the Military Chief (Col. B.T. Pash) be given, before each operation, as complete a picture of the scientific interests as possible. A mere description and enumeration of the targets would have been insufficient."

p.25 Conclusions

"It is the opinion of the Scientific Chief that the Mission has been highly successful. It has taught us lessons in intelligence procedure which may be of great value in peacetime, too. This fact is of greater importance than the actual scientific information which was collected, the bulk of which was negative.

Only the method used by the Alsos Mission could have revealed, immediately after the fall of Strasbourg, that no threat of a German Atom Bomb existed. From a military point of view, this was the most important result obtained by the Mission.

(cont.)

p.25 Conclusion

"The Alsos method, it must be emphasized, succeeded only because of the close cooperation and mutual trust of the military and the scientists. For all members, this Mission has been a unique undertaking, giving the inner satisfaction of having actively contributed to the success of the Allied cause."

Washington, D.C.
7 December 1945

S.A. Goudsmit
Scientific Chief
Alsos Mission

Copy of letter from A. C. of S., G-2, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, 2 March 1945, granting the Commanding Officer of Alsos Unit (Colonel Pash) exclusive investigation authority in the Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Area of Responsibility.

Encl
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to Encl
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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
MAIN HEADQUARTERS

2 March 1945

To Whom it May Concern:

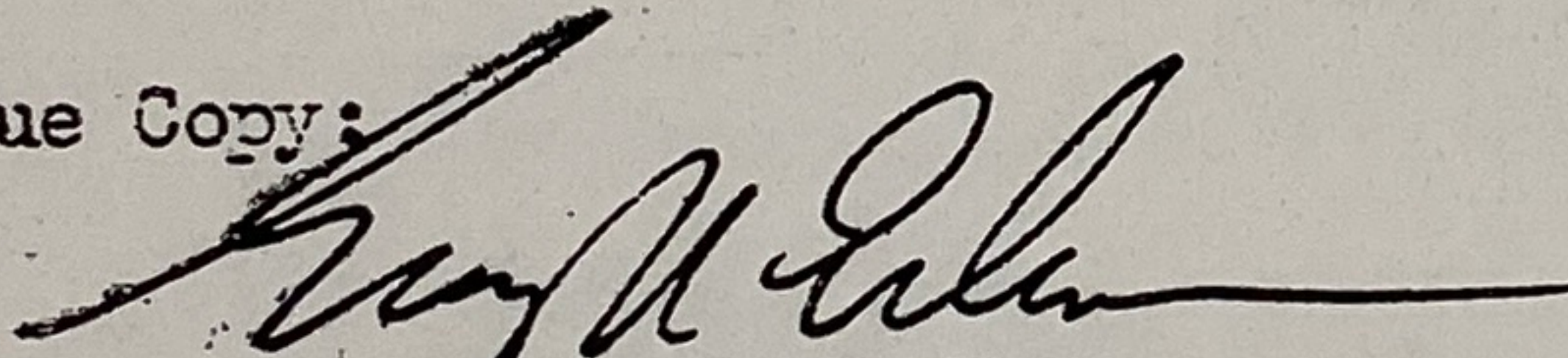
The ALSOS Mission is charged with the exclusive investigation of two certain high priority scientific intelligence subjects in the Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Area of Responsibility.

The Commanding Officer, ALSOS Unit, is authorized to seize and hold such documents as pertain to these fields to which exclusive investigation is assigned for such periods of time as may be necessary to extract pertinent information and maintain security control.

s/K.W.D. STRONG

t/K.W.D. STRONG
Major General, GS
A C of S, G-2

A True Copy:


GEORGE R. ECKMAN
Lt. Colonel, MI

ALSOS MISSION	
Initials	
File	
Date	

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

NND 750122

BY

SP-8. C. G.

Encl 5 to Encl 1

Encl
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Subject File
Recommendations
Distinguished Service Medal, 1976

Copy of memorandum from Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, 11 April 1945, introducing Colonel Pash to the Commanding Generals of the 21st, 12th and 6th Army Groups and to the Commanding General of the Communication Zone, indicating his responsibility and directing their full cooperation.

Encl
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to Encl
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Supreme Headquarters
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Office of the Chief of Staff

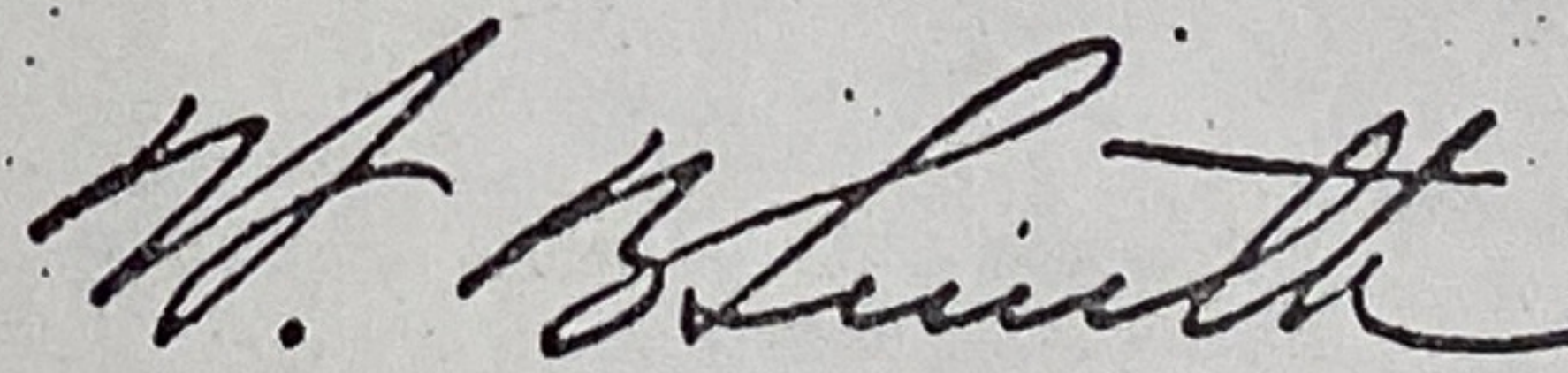
11 April 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commander-in-Chief, 21 Army Group
Commanding General, 12 Army Group
Commanding General, 6 Army Group
Commanding General, Communications Zone

This will introduce Colonel B. T. Pash, GSC, O-275706, who is on a special mission for the Supreme Commander in connection with a matter of great importance to the British and U.S. Governments.

It is requested that he be given whatever assistance he may require in carrying out this mission, including permission to enter and visit anywhere within the forward operational areas.

By direction of the Supreme Commander:



W. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff.

Encl 6 to Encl 1

Copy of letter from Brigadier General Eugene L. Harrison, A. C. of S., G-2, 6th Army Group, 30 April 1945, to General Devers (Commanding General), citing the accomplishments of Colonel Pash as commander of a special Alsos Task Force in that area.

Encl
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to Encl
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RECEIVED
JCS Memo, Jan. 4, 1944
HASS, G-2
9.23.71

HEADQUARTERS 6TH ARMY GROUP
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
APO 23, U. S. Army

30 April 1945

SUBJECT: Special "T" Force, Wurttemberg Area, Southwestern Germany.

TO: Commanding General, 6th Army Group, APO 23, U. S. Army.

1. By direction of the Supreme Commander, a special intelligence mission of great importance to the British and United States governments was assigned to this command. The mission was to plan and execute a special operation in the Wurttemberg area, southwestern Germany, in order to obtain complete intelligence of a special war research project of the enemy, through seizure and exploitation of persons, documents, buildings and materials. The mission was assigned to Colonel Boris T. Pash, G. S. C., O-275706, Chief, ALSOS Mission, Military Intelligence Service, War Department, was designated by the Supreme Commander to carry out the mission. Colonel Pash was attached to Headquarters, 6th Army Group for the purpose of this operation and was designated Commanding Officer, Special "T" Force. The results obtained by the investigation of the mission were submitted to the Commanding General. Target information was submitted by ALSOS Mission to this headquarters. Plans were prepared and orders issued by this Headquarters for a combined air and ground operation by VI Corps, Seventh Army, and Thirteenth Airborne Division, First Allied Airborne Army.

b. On 20 April 1945, the tactical situation changed materially due to the rapid advance of the First French Army towards the target area. Plans were changed and the air operation was cancelled. On 21 April 1945, Colonel Pash, with his headquarters, moved into the French area near Freudenstadt with the 1269th Combat Engineer Battalion which was assigned for this operation. The members of ALSOS Mission with the Special "T" Force Headquarters included 14 U. S. Officers, 7 British Officers, 5 expert consultants of the War Department, 8 Counter Intelligence Corps Agents, 15 U. S. enlisted men, and one British enlisted man.

c. In order to insure complete cooperation by VI Corps and later by French Army authorities, I personally visited the two headquarters and transmitted the desires of the Commanding General. I then remained with the Special "T" Force until the combat phase of the operation was completed in order to insure that tactical developments in the area would not interfere with the successful completion of the special operation.

d. The complete operation extended from 21 April 1945 until 29 April 1945. From 22 April through 25 April, the Special "T" Force advanced into this area and secured all targets in the towns of Haigerloch, Hechingen, Bisingen, Thannheim, and Taillfingen, overcoming small enemy resistance in several sectors. During the remaining days, the special targets in the general area were exploited by ALSOS Mission scientific members of the Special "T" Force.

3rd 7-1 to G-2

SECRET

Special "T" Force, Urtenberg Area, Southwestern Germany.
30 April 1945 continued

3. The Special "T" Force operation was a success in all its phases. Complete intelligence was obtained from both known targets and targets of opportunity.

a. Previous ALSC Mission intelligence indicated that four important laboratories were evacuated to the Hohenzollern area; namely, at Heigerloch, Eechingen, Tailfingen and Bisingen. These laboratories were expected to possess the key secret documents, equipment, and materials of special interest, and to be staffed by the outstanding German scientists in the special field of research.

b. The places were found exactly as expected. One important personnel target had left for the Munich area about two weeks previously. All other personnel were present and the laboratories were intact. After considerable persuasion, ALSC personnel succeeded in learning the hiding places of the critical material and of the secret documents which had been allegedly burned. Some of the German personnel were cooperative but others were quite reserved. It was decided to evacuate six of the scientists and two pieces of equipment, together with all relevant documents.

c. The results obtained by the investigation of this area have given a complete and detailed picture of the progress made on the special project in Germany. The documents captured may furnish some new ideas and similarly the pieces of equipment can eventually lead to important developments.

EUGENE L. HARRISON
Brigadier General, GSC

A. C. of S., G-2

Copy of "EYES ONLY" message from General Eisenhower to Secretary of War,
relating the success of the Alsos Mission headed by BORIS PASH in the
6th Army Group Area.

Encl
8
to Encl
1

ORIGINATORS FILE No.

SHAFT MESSAGE FORM

CALL

CIRCUIT No.

PRIORITY

TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

NR

SPACES WITHIN HEAVY LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

ORIGINATOR

(A)

SHAFT FWD

WBS/rmb

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN

AFZ 2718153

TO FOR ACTION

AGWAR

TO (W) FOR INFORMATION (INFO)

MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS

GR

(REF. NO.) FWD - 19991

(CLASSIFICATION)

EYES ONLY

THE SPECIAL ALSOS REPEAT ALSOS MISSION HEADED BY BORIS PASH CMA WORKING WITH THE TARE FORCE OF SIX ARMY GROUP HAVE HIT THE JACKPOT IN THE HECHINGEN AREA PAREN FOR THE EYES ONLY OF GENERAL MARSHALL AND THE SECRETARY OF WAR FROM EISENHOWER UNPAREN CMA AND HAVE SECURED PERSONNEL CMA INFORMATION AND MATERIEL EXCEEDING THEIR WILDEST EXPECTATIONS PD FULL DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED LATER THROUGH THE USUAL SECRET CHANNELS CMA BUT WE NOW UNQUESTIONABLY HAVE EVERYTHING AND NONE OF THIS INFORMATION HAS LEAKED OUT

EYES ONLY

DISTRIBUTION:

COORDINATED WITH:

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION

INITIALS

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT IN CLEAR BY ANY MEANS

INITIALS

Precedence

URGENT

URGENT

ORIGINATING DIVISION

Chief of Staff

NAME AND RANK TYPED. TEL. NO.

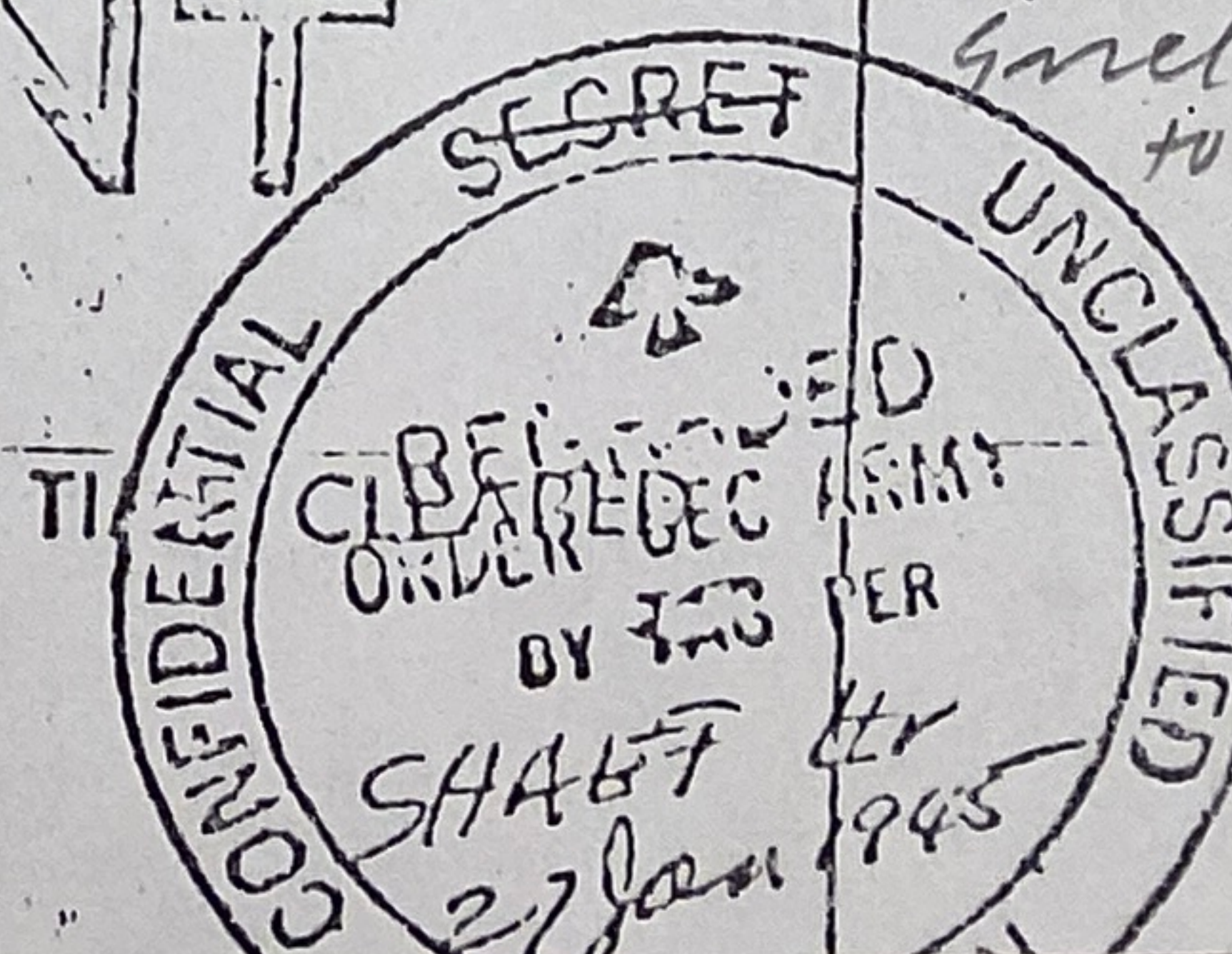
LT COL J.B. MOORE III 5587
AUTHENTICATING SIGNATURE

DECLASSIFIED
DOD Dir. 5200.9, Sept. 27, 1953
NMW by *11* date *1/27/81*

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Copy of memorandum from Dr. S. A. Goudsmit, Chief Scientist with Alsos, to Colonel Pash, Chief of Mission, requesting seizure of 22 Grams of Radium; an illustration of the type of dangers Pash was expected to carry out. The radium was secured. See reverse side.

Enc
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to En
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~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
ALSO'S MISSION
APO 887

25 June 1945

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Colonel Boris T. Pash
Chief of Mission

1. The Alsos Mission documents and interrogations have given leads as to the whereabouts of about 22 grams of radium. I consider it definitely worthwhile for Alsos to pursue their search for this radium and request the full support of the military personnel in connection therewith.

2. The radium is stored in a rather thin-walled safe which is not sufficient to protect persons who are not aware of its presence. 20 grams of radium represents a significant fraction of the entire world's supply of radium.

3. A recent discovery of 1.7 grams of radium in Bavaria by a major in the Medical Corps has attracted wide attention and has resulted in the Award of the Legion of Merit, indicating the great interest shown by the authorities in this material.

S. A. GORDON
Scientific Chief

*Reported by press as
discovered on 6/26/45
by U.S. operations*

~~SECRET~~

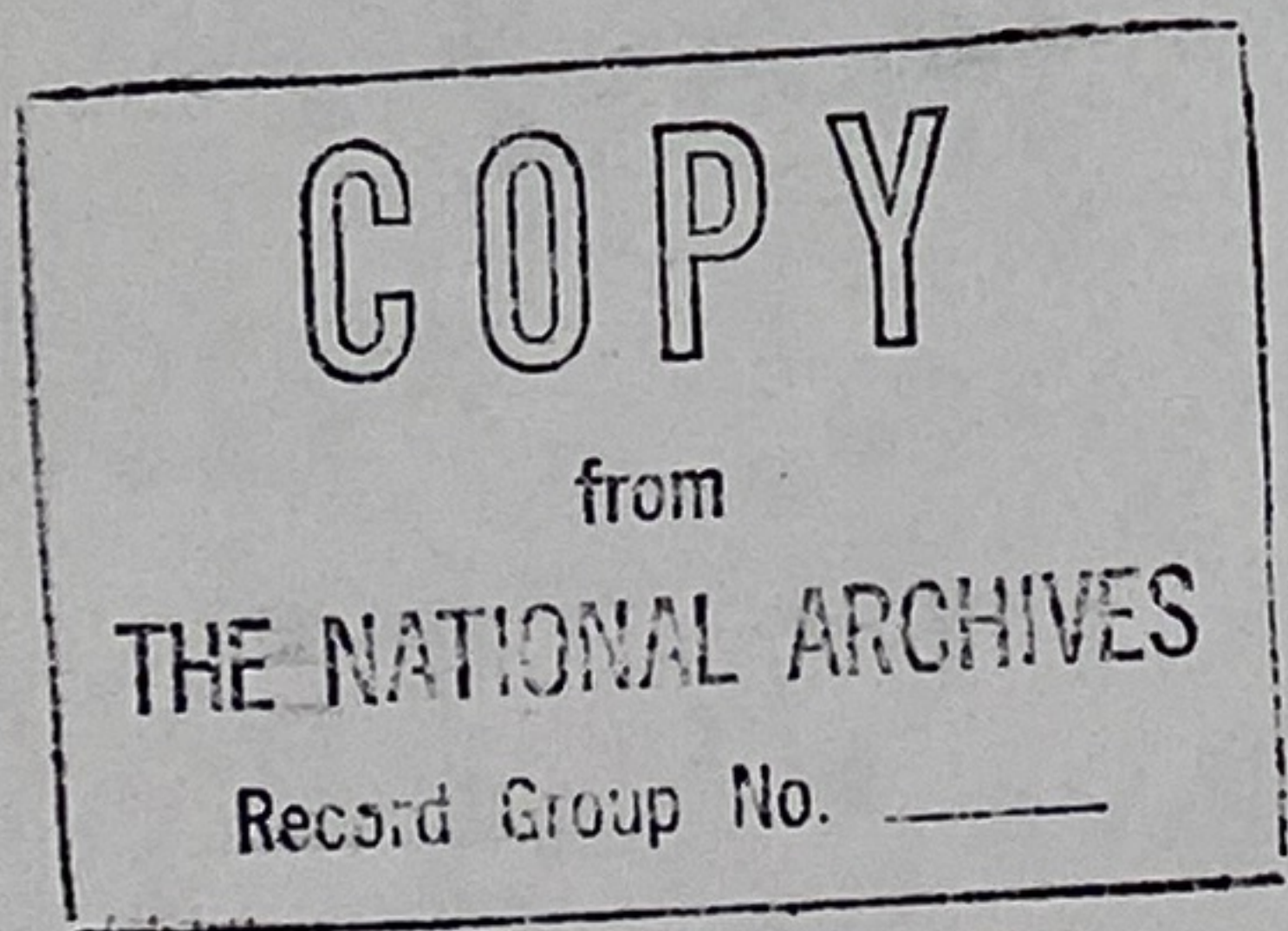
ALSO'S MISSION	
File	684
Date	

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 750122

BY

DATE

5-19



RG 165, Records of the War Department
General and Special Staffs

Int. Div.: Alsos Files

"A P Project"

Reverse side
of Encl 9

Also Mission
Subject File
Recommendations
1936

Letter from Brigadier General Eugene L. Harrison, Ret., December 21, 1976, who served during World War II as G-2, 6th Army Group, supporting his recommendation for Distinguished Service Medal for Colonel Pash. Copy of recommendation for DSM made in 1945 attached.

Enc/
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to Enc/
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Eugene L. Harrison
Mandalay Point
Clearwater Beach, Florida 33515

December 21, 1976

Major General James C. Fry
3276 Juniper Lane
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Dear Jim:

I was glad to learn that you are helping assemble the necessary documents for General Devers to resubmit an overdue recommendation for the Distinguished Service Medal for Colonel Boris T. Pash. As you probably know, shortly after my return to this country from Europe after the War, I submitted as Assistant Chief of Staff G-2 of the Army Ground Forces, a recommendation for the DSM for Colonel Pash to the War Department. It is my recollection that it was approved by the War Department Chief of Staff G-2 but never awarded by the War Department. ****

It is my opinion that the reason for the War Department's failure to approve was twofold. First, the project was so highly classified that only the very highest officials in the American and British Governments were aware of the existence of the Alsos Mission or its objective. The Top Secret classification was not reduced until many years after the War. As a result very few Officers in the War Department knew of the vital importance of the intelligence sought by the Alsos Mission to the conduct of the War by high officials of the American and British governments.

For example, we knew that the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Physics with Werner Heisenberg in charge and Dr. Otto Hahn, discoverer of atomic fission, had been evacuated from Berlin to the Hechingen area. Aerial photographs indicated considerable excavations in this area. It was necessary to determine whether or not the Germans were manufacturing atomic weapons in this area. This was of such great importance that the Sixth Army Group prepared a Corps of two Infantry Divisions, one armored and one airborne, to quickly overrun and capture the German atomic capability and the German scientist. However, information obtained from documents captured by the Alsos Mission at Strasbourg, which had been sent back to Washington for study, indicated that the Germans did not have the

****Copy of recommendation attached.

9

Encl 10-1 to Encl 1

Letter to Major General Fry, December 21, 1976

capability to make atomic weapons at this time. The plan was cancelled and Colonel Pash was assigned an engineer battalion to assist the Alsos Mission in capturing the German atomic capability.

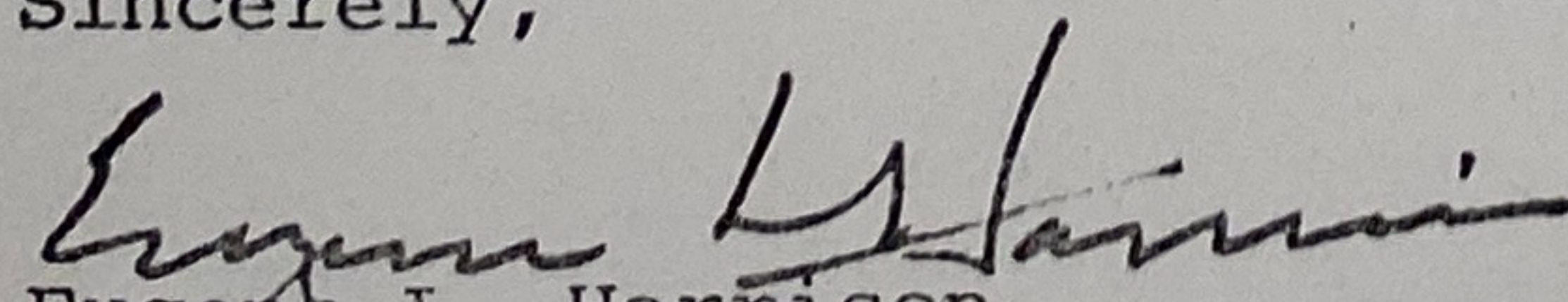
Secondly, in most of the so-called "Civilian Intelligence Groups" which roamed over Europe after the War, the Army Commander of the Unit was merely a caretaker responsible for securing quarters, transportation, meals, etc., which was probably the manner in which the War Department viewed Colonel Pash's service. This was not the case in the Alsos Mission. Colonel Pash organized the mission, trained it and conducted it in all operations in Italy, France, Holland, Belgium and Germany. He was the guiding spirit that made the plans and conducted his group in executing these plans. The scientists assigned were simply expert consultants. They were brought forward after the targets had been secured, so that they were never in danger of being captured by the enemy. I know this to be a fact because the Alsos Mission was under my general supervision during the time it was with the Sixth Army Group. I personally accompanied Colonel Pash and the Alsos Mission during the period in which it captured the German installation at Heigerloch and the German scientist in the Hechingen-Bisengen area.

The Alsos Mission operated directly under the War Department through General Groves. Its mission was to determine if the Germans had an atomic capability and, if so, its location and when and how it could be expected to be employed. This was information of the most vital importance to the conduct of the War by the American and British governments. Colonel Pash organized the mission, planned and conducted it to the successful conclusion of its mission. In doing so he had to deal with highly placed officials of the American and British governments, well-known scientists and high ranking military commanders of both nations. He accomplished this in an exceptionally outstanding manner in a position of great responsibility. If anyone deserves the Distinguished Service Medal, he does.

It is my hope that General Devers will make the recommendation and that the Department of the Army will correct the injustice to this outstanding Officer.

Karla joins me in best wishes to you and your family for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,


Eugene L. Harrison
Brigadier General USA (RET)

ELH:abh

10-2

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY GROUND FORCES
Washington 25, D. C.

201-Pash, Boris T (O)(

)GNGBI

MEMORANDUM FOR THE A. C. OF S., G-2, WAR DEPARTMENT.

Subject: Recommendation for DSM for Colonel Boris T. Pash.

1. I wish to recommend, for your consideration, the award of the DSM to Colonel Boris T. Pash for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services in a position of great responsibility as Chief of the ALSOS Mission in the European Theatre of Operation. Part of Colonel Pash's mission was with the 6th Army Group almost continuously from November 1944 to the end of the war. During this time I personally observed the aggressiveness, professional skill and enthusiasm with which Colonel Pash discharge his duties. His perseverance, intense loyalty, cooperativeness and tact, combined with a deep consciousness of his mission resulted in a distinctly outstanding contribution to the successful conduct of the war.

2. You are aware of the objectives sought by Colonel Pash's mission and of the great responsibility which he bore as Chief of the only intelligence agency collecting information concerning the enemy's program in this special and highly important field. The results he obtained were far beyond the expectations for a mission of this type. For example, when the city of Strasbourg, France, was captured about 14 November 1944. Colonel Pash and his mission entered the city with the combat troops and by his aggressive action secured documents which were of the utmost importance, and upon which vital decisions were made concerning the greatest project of our war effort. I am sure that important results were obtained by detachments of his mission serving with the 12th and 21st Army Groups, of which I have no personal knowledge.

3. Although a part of Colonel Pash's mission served with the 6th Army Group from about November 1944 until the end of the war, other detachments served with the 12th and 21st Army Groups. For this reason and also due to the position of the mission as a War Department agency, it was felt that any awards recommended by the 6th Army Group should be for specific services accomplished in the 6th Army Group area; thus leaving awards for overall services of the mission to the War Department. Accordingly, Colonel Pash was recommended for the Legion of Merit for his exceptionally outstanding services in Southern Germany during the period 1 April to 29 April 1945. This award was approved in War Department General Order No. 72, 1945.

10-3

4. I am of the opinion that Colonel Pash's exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services during the entire period in the European Theatre of Operation should be rewarded and have therefore taken the liberty of making this recommendation for your consideration.

E. L. HARRISON,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Deputy A. C. of S., G-2.

Copy of Biography of Dr. Samuel A. Goudsmit, Chief Scientist with
The Alsos Mission, September 1976. Note Award of Medal of Freedom
at end of World War II.

Encl
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to Encl
1

Biography of Samuel A. Goudsmit

GOUDSMIT, Samuel Abraham, Physicist. b. The Hague, Netherlands, July 11, 1902, son of Isaac and Marianne (Compers) Goudsmit. Married 1st. Jaantje Logher 1927, one daughter Esther Marianne; 2nd Irene Bejach 1960.

Student University of Leiden, Netherlands 1919-26. Research Assistant University of Amsterdam 1923-26. Ph.D. in Physics at Leiden, 1927. Received Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship 1926 (Copenhagen and Tübingen).

Came to the United States in 1927. Faculty University of Michigan 1927-46 (Professor of Physics 1932-46). Guggenheim Fellowship 1938 (Rome and Paris). Visiting Professor Harvard University 1941.

On leave to Radiation (Radar) Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and ETO 1941-46. Detailed to War Department as Chief of Scientific Intelligence (Alsos) Mission to Europe May 1944 to December 1945.

Professor of Physics Northwestern University 1946-48. Senior Scientist Brookhaven National Laboratory 1948-70. Chairman, Department of Physics 1952-60; Deputy Chairman 1960-67.

Part time Lecturer The New School 1948-51; part time Lecturer Bureau of Ships 1949-59; part time Visiting Professor Rockefeller University 1957-74.

Editor-in-Chief American Physical Society 1951-74; Founded Physical Review Letters 1958, editor 1958-74. Morris Loeb lectr., Harvard 1975; Visiting Professor, University of Nevada-Reno, 1975-.

Awarded U. S. Medal of Freedom 1946; Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) 1948; Research Corporation Science Award 1954; honorary D.Sc. Case Institute of Technology 1958; "Half Moon Trophy" Award, Netherlands Club of New York 1962; Max Planck Medal, German Physical Society 1965; honorary D.Sc. Utah State University 1972; honorary D.Sc. University of Chicago 1972; Karl T. Compton Award for Distinguished Statesmanship in Science, American Institute of Physics 1974. Honorary D.Sc. Northwestern University 1975.

Elected Fellow of the American Physical Society 1931; Fellow National Academy of Sciences 1947; Fellow Netherlands Physical Society; Correspondent Member Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences 1950; Member American Philosophical Society 1952; Fellow American Nuclear Society 1962; Honorary Member Sigma Pi Sigma 1962; Member American Academy of Arts and Sciences 1964.

Author of "The Structure of Line Spectra" (with L. Pauling) 1930; "Atomic Energy States" (with R. F. Bacher) 1932; "Alsos" 1947; "Time" (with R. Claiborne and editors of Life Magazine) 1966; and numerous technical articles and editorials.

Encl 11-1 to Encl 1

Discoverer (with G. E. Uhlenbeck) of so-called "spin of the electron"
1925. First measurement of nuclear spin and its Zeeman effect (with E. Back)
1926-27. Theory of hyperfine structure of spectral lines and first spectro-
scopic determination of nuclear magnetic moments 1931-33. Various contributions
to the theory of complex atoms such as introduction of "fractional parentage"
of energy levels (with R. F. Bacher) 1934. Theory of multiple scattering of
electrons (with J. L. Saunderson) 1940; introduction of the statistical random
line problem 1945; inventor of magnetic time-of-flight mass spectrometer 1948.

Leisure interests: Egyptology; Stamp Collecting.

Copies of letters of commendation from General Groves, Chief of the Manhattan Project, 6 April 1944, 28 March 1945, 28 November 1945, and related papers.

Encl
12
to Enc
1

6 April 1944

Subject: Commendation.

To: Lieutenant Colonel Boris T. Pash
Manhattan Engineer District, OCE.

1. From 1 May 1943 until 24 November 1943, under the specific direction of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, you conducted counter intelligence operations of great importance to the protection of the vital work which is under my direction. These operations presented unusual difficulties in that you were required to conduct important operations without the knowledge and in many cases without the assistance of your immediate superiors.

2. During the period 24 November 1943 to 27 February 1944, you were the Commanding Officer of a mission charged with the gathering of certain information in Italy. The composition and objects of this mission were unique, and its successful accomplishment presented unusual difficulties.

3. The superior manner in which you accomplished both of these missions should be a source of pride to you.

4. For reasons of security, this letter cannot be delivered to you at this time; but it is being retained in the files of my office for delivery when the military situation permits.

/s/ L. R. Groves

L. R. GROVES
Major General, C.E.

CERTIFIED TO BE
A TRUE COPY:

/s/ Howard J. Osborn

HOWARD J. OSBORN
Major, GSC

Encl 12-1 to Encl 1

Recd. by Gen. Bureau

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*File
201 - Pash*

28 March 1945

Colonel B. T. Pash,
Alsos Mission c/o MIS,
Hq, Com Z, G-2,
APO 887, U. S. Army

Dear Pash,

I saw Sir Charles Hambro today and he related to me his recent experiences in Europe with yourself, Major Calvert and Major Furman. I was gratified to learn how well you had handled the situations, particularly in the absence of any instructions or advices from me.

Sir Charles was highly pleased with the opportunities afforded him and he is enthusiastic about the prospective success of the plans for the operations now pending.

Your efforts in this matter have further enhanced the good feeling already existing between Sir Charles Hambro and our organization. Tactful handling of situations of this kind add immeasurably to the fulfilment of the goal that we are trying to attain. I am proud of all three of you.

A similar letter is being forwarded to Major Calvert and Major Furman.

L. R. Groves

L. R. GROVES,
Major General, C. E.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12-2



WAR DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 2610
WASHINGTON, D. C.



REFER TO FILE NO. _____

26 November 1945

Subject: Commendation -- Colonel Boris T. Pash

To : The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department

1. I understand that the Alsos Mission has completed its activities and is now disbanding. I believe it is appropriate at this time to invite your attention to the important contributions made by this organization, under the leadership of Colonel Boris T. Pash, GSC, to the intelligence activities of the Manhattan Project.

2. Colonel Pash led a small party of investigators in the Mediterranean Theater during the period 26 November 1943 to 28 February 1944. Because of results obtained from this small operation, I concurred in the recommendations of your office that a permanent mission be organized under the direction of Colonel Pash for investigative activity in the European Theater of Operations. During the period of Alsos Mission operations in the European Theater, from 15 May 1944 to 15 October 1945, the organization contributed foreign positive intelligence information of great importance to the Manhattan Project.

3. The success of the Alsos Mission in obtaining highly important positive intelligence information for my organization can be attributed in large measure to Colonel Pash. I recommend that you consider the award to Colonel Pash of the Legion of Merit in recognition of his services as Chief of the Alsos Mission.

L. R. GROVES
Major General, USA

12-3

22.3.45 } Prince's Gate
S.W. 7

My dear Colonel

Just a line of
personal thanks for all
your kindness to the Can^{dr}
& I when in France. We
had a most interesting &
Constructive time.

I have written to you

officially through Forman
but felt I must send
this personal message as
well.

I hope you will approve
of what I have written in
my letters to Forman &
Bedell Smith.

I have never seen
these.

W. S. + S. M.
Charles Hambro

Note. = Sir Charles Hambro was the Executive Director of the British
"SPECIAL OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE" the British version of the United
States OSS. He obviously wrote Eisenhower's Chief of Staff,
General Bedell Smith a very complimentary letter concerning
Colonel Pash, -----which cannot be located.

James C. Fry
Major General, Ret.

Copy of memorandum from the Acting Chief, Policy Staff, War Department, 30 October 1945, to Chief, Military Intelligence Service, calling attention to the fact that Colonel Pash had not received appropriate recognition.

Enc
13
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1

(5)
30 October 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:

SUBJECT: Award for Colonel Pash

1. It is noted that the Legion of Merit recently awarded Colonel Pash was based on only one of a number of ALSOS operations: that is, an operation in April conducted under the Sixth Army Group. The staff action leading to the award in that case was prepared by G-2 of the Sixth Army Group.

2. It is believed that a noticeable disparity exists, in that the Sixth Army Group arranged for this award covering one month of ALSOS activity by Colonel Pash, while MIS has not yet accorded similar formal recognition for the entire period of ALSOS operations. In view of the unusually great importance of the intelligence projects handled by the ALSOS Mission, and the outstanding success it achieved under Colonel Pash's leadership, during a year and a half, the Policy Staff will strongly support any appropriate formal recognition which you might wish to make. Key officers from the European Theater, as well as prominent OSRD scientists, have uniformly praised the exceptional quality of Colonel Pash's field leadership and operating ability.

3. It may be that the above disparity has not been brought to your attention. Therefore, this memorandum is furnished for your information and such action as you may wish to take.

L. R. FORNEY
Colonel, GSC, WDGS
Acting Chief, Policy Staff

Encl 13 to Encl 11

Copy of memorandum from Colonel Feodor O. Schmidt, Chief, Policy Staff, War Department General Staff, December 5, 1945, to Chief, Military Intelligence Service, recommending the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Colonel Boris T. Pash for the "exceptional success achieved" in carrying out the Intelligence Missions assigned him.

Encl
14
to Encl
1

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



5 December 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:

SUBJECT: Award for Colonel Boris T. Pash.

1. Throughout the past 17 months, the Policy Staff, MID, WDGS, was responsible for preparing War Department policies and plans relating to the ALSOS Mission, and for exercising general surveillance over it. In this capacity the Policy Staff closely observed the work of Colonel Boris T. Pash, Chief of the Mission.

2. The War Department's directive charged Colonel Pash with conducting the necessary field operations to secure intelligence of Germany's secret scientific developments. In carrying out this heavy responsibility, Colonel Pash commanded a joint operating unit consisting of military and naval personnel and numerous prominent civilian scientists. He was solely responsible for the planning and execution of all operations of the unit. These occurred at widely separated places throughout the entire area of combat in the European Theater, and continued from the invasion of the continent until scientific intelligence exploitation was completed after V-E Day. Many ALSOS objectives were top secret and of highest importance to the United States and British Governments. Colonel Pash had to safeguard this secrecy and at the same time coordinate the operations of his unit with the staff activity and combat operations of various major combat units, both British and American.

3. Key high-ranking officers from the theater have commented to the Policy Staff on the exceptional skill and success with which Colonel Pash conducted operations. The efficiency with which he overcame difficulties and established conditions suitable for prompt and effective work by the scientists gave the ALSOS Mission an outstanding reputation among the intelligence units in the theater and has elicited the highest praise from the scientists. The Mission furnished the War Department and other using agencies a wide variety of needed scientific intelligence reports of subjects very important to the war effort. Reports from using agencies attest that the Mission was

Encl 14-1 to Encl 1

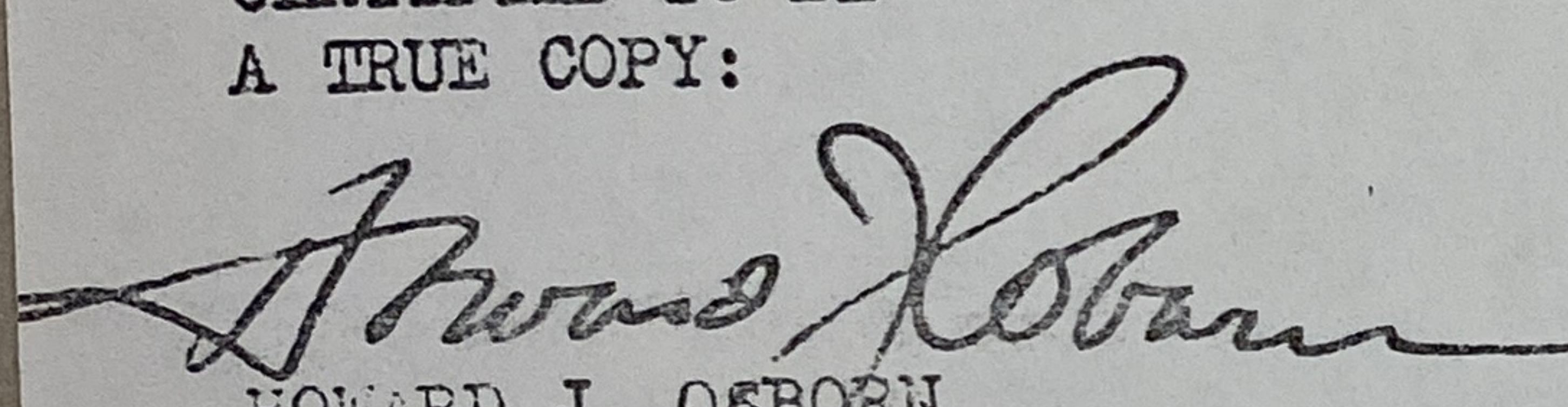
eminently successful from the standpoint of results secured. Of especial importance was the intelligence regarding the state of German progress in atomic research. The Mission's work in this field furnished the direct basis for sound conclusions vital to the success of a major War Department effort. ||

4. The Policy Staff believes that the importance of Colonel Pash's responsibility and the exceptional success achieved fully warrants the award of the distinguished service medal.

/s/ Feodor O. Schmidt

FEODOR O. SCHMIDT
Colonel, GSC, WDGS
Chief, Policy Staff

CERTIFIED TO BE
A TRUE COPY:


HOWARD J. OSBORN
Major, GSC

Copies of miscellaneous commendations of the accomplishments of
ALSOS under the command of Colonel Pash.

Encl
15
to Encl
1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR AERONAUTICS

1800 New Hampshire Ave., Dupont Circle
Washington 25, D. C.

June 29, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:
Subject: Commendation on ALSOS Mission Report of
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
War Department, The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics wishes to express its appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered it by the Scientific Intelligence (ALSOS) Mission.

The Committee has been able to receive early and accurate intelligence of German aeronautical research, its accomplishments, equipment, and something of its future plans, through past participation in the Mission of NACA staff members E. J. E. Reid and R. G. Robinson, and current participation of Carlton Kasper and William Ebert.

Some of this intelligence was discussed by Mr. Robinson at the June 23 meeting of this Committee. The unusually fine coordination of scientific aims and military operations was commented upon, as was the outstanding job of the military personnel of the Mission in visualizing and realizing the objectives. I am advised that this is the responsibility of Colonel Boris Pash and his staff of officers, and of your staff.

It is a pleasure to indicate the benefit that has accrued to this Committee in the prosecution of its research program for the Army and Naval Air Arms, through participation in the ALSOS Mission, and to convey to you the compliments of the Committee on the effective operation of the Mission.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. C. Hunsaker

J. C. HUNSAKER

DECLASSIFIED

SEP 22 1983

(see back of document) date

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Encl. 15-1 to Encl. 1

BY..... DATE.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, I

CONFIDENTIAL
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR AERONAUTICS
1100 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Assistant Chief of Staff, A-3
War Department, The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) to express the appreciation of the valuable contribution it by the Scientific Intelligence (AI) Division.

The Committee has been able to reveal intelligence of German aeronautical research, equipment, and conduct of its future program in the Mission of NACA staff members, and current participation of German scientists and engineers.

Some of this intelligence was discussed at the June 22 meeting of the Committee. The mission of the AI Division is to provide the military and civilian agencies with the information necessary for the development of our own aircraft and for the understanding of the capabilities of the enemy.

AUTHORITY: MEMORANDUM FOR
Reviewer: _____
Subject: **ENM**
Chief, Office of Industrial Security
Contract Administration Services
Defense Supply Agency (13 Aug 73)
Hoover Institute Declassification Program

SEP 5 1983

DECLASSIFIED

(see back of document) done

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Comm. 13-1292

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2
WASHINGTON

25 July 1944.
August 13 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE:

Subject: Commendation on ALSOS Mission Report of
4 March 1944.

1. Inclosed for your information, and for file in the Office of the Scientific Intelligence Mission, is a commendation from the Division of Naval Intelligence on the ALSOS Mission Report of 4 March 1944.

2. This commendation is a source of gratification to this office.

3. Copies have been furnished the members of the Advisory Committee.

Incls.

Cy. of ltr. from
Coordinator of Res.
& Development w/incl.

Cy. of Gen. Bissell's
reply.

CLAYTON BISSELL

Major General

A. C. of S., G-2

John W. Weckerling
JOHN WECKERLING,

Colonel, G.S.C.,

Deputy A.C. of S., G-2.

VICTORY
BUY
UNITED
STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

15-2

ALSOS MISSION

15-2

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EX. DATE

Communique File

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.

August 13, 1945.

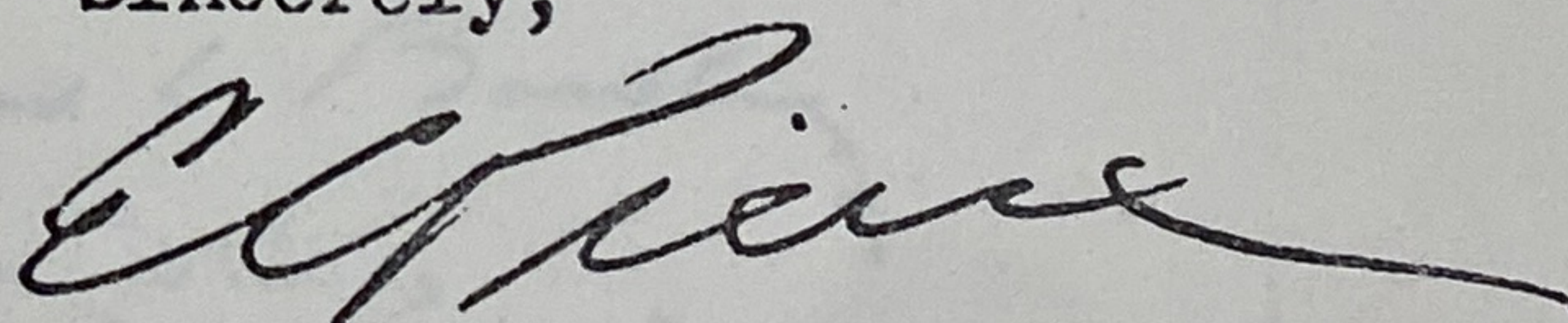
Colonel Boris Pash, Chief,
Alsos Mission, G-2,
USFET (Rear),
APO 887, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

My dear Colonel Pash:

Now that I am back in the States and have my feet on the ground, I wish to take the opportunity to thank you and all of the members of your especially fine organization who made the fulfillment of our mission both pleasant and effective. I would appreciate your passing my thanks particularly to Lt. Col. Eckman, Captain Ryan, Captain Augustine, Lt. Ball, Lt. Fiebig, and Dr. Goudsmit. I want to assure you that I personally was impressed by the efficiency of your organization and the efforts made by your men to get the best out of all of the technical investigations.

I hope I may have the pleasure of meeting you sometime in Washington.

Sincerely,


E. C. Pierce.

15-3

15-3

ALSOS MISSION

Authority: WND 730039

OK..... WARS, Date.....

(6)

just on form

~~SECRET~~

File

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

30 June 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel W. I. Adams, Chief
Foreign Branch, IIS,
22004 Pentagon Building.

Thank you very much for sending me
the commendation for the work IISCS did on the
biological warfare job.

I had heard from several sources, both
abroad and here when I returned, that IISCS had
done an outstanding piece of work on the subject.
I feel sure that recognition will not stop at
this point but that the Mission will be commended
for other vital contributions.

Edward L. Bowles

Edward L. Bowles,
Expert Consultant to
the Secretary of War.

Handwritten signature and initials

~~SECRET~~

6557

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 730039
BY..... DATE.....

*AISS Mission
Subject File
Recommendations
Distinguished Service*

15-4

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 750122
BY..... DATE.....

15-4

Copy of the report of the British Army Commission on the subject of the
action at Colonel George F. Smith, with related papers.

End
to
use

George R.I.

George the Sixth *by the Grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India and Sovereign of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to Colonel Boris Theodore Pash United States Army* **Greeting**

Whereas We have thought fit to nominate and appoint you to be an *Honorary Officer* of the Military Division of Our said Most Excellent Order of the British Empire We do by these presents grant unto you the Dignity of an *Honorary Officer* of Our said Order and hereby authorise you to have hold and enjoy the said Dignity and Rank of an *Honorary Officer* of Our aforesaid Order together with all and singular the privileges thereunto belonging or appertaining.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's under Our Sign Manual and the Seal of Our said Order, this *Thirtieth* day of *August 1945* in the *Ninth* year of Our Reign

By the Sovereign's Command.

Mary
Grand Master

Grant of the dignity of an *Honorary Officer* of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire to Colonel Boris Theodore Pash.

Honorary O.B.E.

Colonel Boris T. Pash

United States Army.

Colonel Pash commanded the special Mission which was sent forward during the advance into Germany in connection with the collection of special intelligence.

He never spared himself or his detachment in any task that was set him, and it was to his determination and willingness to take risks when the situation warranted that the conspicuous success of his Mission in its many tasks was largely due. These tasks included the capture of objectives as far apart as Cologne, Heidelberg, Erfurt, Frankfurt, Strassburg and, in the final dash to Southwest Germany, Hechingen.

(3)

COL. B. T. PASH OF G-2 FOREIGN LIAISON AWARDED O. B. E.

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS: The following item for general release has been received from the United Kingdom Liaison Mission in Japan.

At a ceremony held at noon today in the official residence of the Head of the United Kingdom Liaison Mission, Mr. A.D.F. Gascoigne, C.M.G., made a presentation on behalf of His Majesty the King of the insignia of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to Col. B. T. Pash, head of G-2 Foreign Liaison, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

The citation accompanying the award is as follows:

"Col. B. T. Pash commanded the special Mission which was sent forward during the advance into Germany in connection with the collection of special intelligence. He never spared himself or his detachment in any task that was set him, and it was to his determination and willingness to take risks when the situation warranted that the conspicuous success of his Mission in its many tasks was largely due. These tasks included the capture of objectives as far apart as Cologne, Heidelberg, Erfurt, Frankfurt, Strassburg, and, in the final dash to Southwest Germany, Hechingen."

In making the presentation, Mr. Gascoigne said:

"It gives me great pleasure this morning, in the presence of your personal friends, and of the senior members of my staff, to deliver to you the insignia of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, which His Majesty the King has bestowed upon you for the signal services which you rendered to the British and Allied cause during the final battles for Germany in the second world war.

"I would take this opportunity to say to you, Colonel Pash, how much we in this Mission value the never failing assistance which we receive from you in the carrying out of our official business here in Japan. In your capacity as head of G-2 Foreign Liaison of SCAP this Mission has much work to transact with you, and through your good offices; I should like you to know how very grateful we are for your cooperation, which is immensely appreciated."

16-3

20 June, 1977

Biographical info. Born in San Francisco, Calif.

To augment info. contained in the "Golden Sphinx" (p.3), a copy of which is attached. The info. in the "Golden Sphinx" is substantially correct, but somewhat "flowery!"

- 1.- In the Fall of 1922 he entered Springfield (Mass.) College, graduating in June, 1924, receiving a B.P.E. degree.
- 2.- In the Spring of 1939 he received the M.S. degree in Education from the University of Southern California.
- 3.- In Feb. 1941 he completed the first Military Officers Investigative School established by the FBI in Washington, D.C.
- 3a--- 4.- Among awards received are -- The Legion of Merit, The Commendation Medal, ~~The Meritorious Service Medal (civilian)~~, The Cross of St. George (Russian Imperial), The Order of the British Empire. He authored the book "The Alsos Mission, which is the operational story of the task force he commanded in WWII. He is now working on the manuscript for a second book.

Meritorious
Civilian
Service
Award

He lives in Greenbrae, Calif.

His son, Edgar C.B. Pash, who is retired from Government service lives in Roswell, N.M. His grandson, John teaches at a high school in northern New Mexico and resides in Albuquerque.

- 3a- ...disability due to war injuries, having been placed on the Temporary Disability Retired List. His final retirement from military service due to permanent disability was effective as of June, 1962.

COL. B. T. PASH OF G-2 FOREIGN LIAISON AWARDED O. B. E.

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Honorary O.B.E.

Colonel Boris T. Pash

United States Army.

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Certified a true and correct copy:

G. W. Chandler
G. W. Chandler, Capt., A.C.